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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/609,140 06/30/00 SILVERBROOK K PAK01US

024011 MM91/0816
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2041 BALMAIN
AUSTRALIA

AIR MAIL

EXAMINER

NGHIEM, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2861

DATE MAILED:

08/16/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/609,140

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Michael P Nghiem

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 51-53 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,23,26,30 and 48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-22,24,25,27-29,31-47,49,50 and 54-56 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because "ink supply channel (14)" (e.g. line 2) should be – ink supply channel (20a) –. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because there are two 92b's in Fig. 6. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

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Claims 1, 23, 26, 30, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tran et al. (US 6,244,696).

Tran et al. discloses all the claimed features of the invention including:

- a support for a plurality of inkjet printhead segments (Fig. 9), said support including:

- a hollow elongate member (hollow structure of 10, Fig. 9) having at least one ink supply channel (gaps between 62 and 28) formed therein, the or each ink supply channel being in fluid communication with an elongate slot (recess of 10, Fig. 9) in and extending at least partly along the elongate member (Fig. 9);

- a plurality of printhead segment carriers (structures containing 28, 58, 58a) received and secured in neighbouring arrangement within the slot (28, 58, 58a within slot, Fig. 5), each printhead segment carrier being adapted for mounting thereto of at least one printhead segment (70, 32),

- wherein each printhead segment carrier includes at least one ink gallery (flow path to 32, Fig. 9) arranged so as to connect the or an associated one of said ink supply channels (Fig. 9) with an ink inlet (inlet to 32) of said at least one printhead segment when mounted to that printhead segment carrier (Fig. 9),

- an external protective shield plate (18) covering the printhead segment carriers and having openings (17) arranged to permit unimpeded passage of ink ejected from nozzles of printhead segments mounted to the carriers towards a surface passing beneath the support (Fig. 9),

- the elongate member is of substantially constant cross-sectional shape along its entire length (Fig. 5).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-22, 24, 25, 27-29, 31-47, 49, 50, and 54-56 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Claims 51-53 are allowed.

Reasons For Allowance

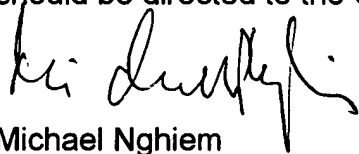
6. The combination as claimed wherein wherein when mounted to the support the at least one printhead segment on each printhead segment carrier has a defined printing range in a direction lengthwise along the elongate member, and wherein the printing ranges of the printhead segments mountable to a plurality of adjoining printhead segment carriers overlap, thereby to define a combined printing range of greater lengthwise extent than any of the printing ranges comprised therein or the printhead segment carriers are substantially identical to one another and have stepped terminal ends thereby to enable neighbouring pairs of printhead carriers to be

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mounted within the slot in orientations substantially oppositely to one another in a direction transverse to the elongate member or said shim having at least one aperture therein to permit flow of ink between the or an associated one of said ink supply channels and a corresponding one ink gallery of the respective printhead segment carrier or each printhead segment carrier has a recess formed in an external surface thereof or a first cap secured to a first terminal end of the elongate member and having an ink inlet port in fluid communication with the or an associated one of, said ink supply channels or the elongate member has three, four or six of said ink supply channels, one each for a preferably differently colored ink or each printhead segment carrier is mounted within the slot at a longitudinal position within a predetermined tolerance distance of a designated longitudinal position of the carrier corresponding to a designated longitudinal position within the slot of a printhead segment when mounted to said printhead segment carrier or said slot lies between free edges of said side wall sections or at least one internal web extending inwardly from said base wall, or the step of mounting to each printhead segment carrier its respective at least one printhead segment precedes the step of securing that printhead segment carrier within the slot is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Nghiem whose telephone number is (703) 306-3445. An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist at (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Nghiem", is written over the printed name.

Michael Nghiem

August 13, 2001